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FACT SHEET

Director of Plans, ODCSOPS
Lt Col Armstrong, 52971

15 April 1960

SUBJECT: Current Status of Summit Preparations (U)

1. (U) Purpose. To furnish background information for the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff concerning preparations for the 16 May Summit meeting.

2. (C) The tempo of summit preparations increased again, as Working Groups reported results to the Foreign Ministers Meeting in Washington. The Foreign Ministers accepted most of the work done thus far and gave guidance for further activity leading up to their next meeting 2-3 May in Istanbul. On the Berlin issue, agreement was so quickly reached that the scheduled second session was not necessary. On East-West relations, however, a number of divergent views remain to be reconciled.

3. (S) US Position Papers were passed to the Army staff for comment on Monday and Tuesday (Working Groups had concluded their reports only on Saturday). Nearly all of these were found acceptable from the Army viewpoint. The comments submitted were similar to those reported in the two previous fact sheets, although much less extensive, since the positions had moved meanwhile in directions highly satisfactory from the Army viewpoint.

4. (S) Germany and Berlin

a. The report by the four-power Working Group was much improved from the early draft versions. The estimate of Soviet negotiating intentions remained acceptable to ACSI without change. The section on the "German Question" continued to stress reunification as the only basis for a solution in Germany and real security in Europe. It did, however, contain language to which the Army staff and others objected and which the Foreign Ministers decided to modify. This language dealt with Western readiness to discuss principles of a treaty, and the Army staff concern was that too pliable an attitude might increase the risk of war by leading the Soviets to overreach themselves on the Berlin issue. The modified language which the Working Group will produce next week will probably be acceptable.

b. The section on the "Berlin Question" had been made stronger and more straightforward in the last several Working Group sessions. The proposed statement of essential conditions of a modus vivendi for West Berlin, for example, includes this greatly improved language:

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"A modus vivendi requires the continuation of the existing Western (Allied and NATO) guarantees of West Berlin's security. Allied forces must be maintained at appropriate strength to carry out their mission in Berlin. Their mission is to ensure the operation of the Western guarantees and to help maintain internal order."

c. The Working Group will resume activity under confirmed guidance from the Foreign Ministers. Chiefly this activity will be preparation of the implementing documents for use at the Summit.

d. At this point, Allied unity is remarkably complete. The West Germans are highly satisfied with the outcome. Opportunity remains, of course, up to and including the Summit meeting itself, for divisions to appear. The British are known to take a more optimistic view of the prospect for agreement, and they may yet press for more concessions.

5. (S) East-West Relations

a. The various working group reports still contain some disagreements. The main source is French insistence on such matters as joint East-West economic aid to less developed countries. Two of these matters have significant military implications. The French propose mutual restraint from political "interference" in certain African and Near Eastern regions, and they propose mutual restraint in sending arms to those areas. The US position opposes both these proposals, as the Army staff agrees it should.

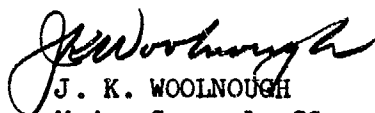
b. When President de Gaulle visits the US 22 April, these differences may be discussed and resolved.

c. The Western approach at the Summit will probably lay much emphasis on exposing the true nature of what the Soviets call "peaceful coexistence." In doing so, the West may perhaps produce a set of principles which should govern the peaceful relations among nations, a "code of conduct" for international relations.

6. (U) Disarmament. Reported separately

7. (U) Classification is derived from State Department Position Paper FMW D-0/3, "Scope and Objectives of Foreign Ministers Meeting," dtd 10 April 1960 (Secret) and cannot be downgraded until above-mentioned document is downgraded.

FOR THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS:


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